

UNIVERSAL CROQUET WICKET LIGHTING UNIT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A croquet wicket lighting unit to provide illumination in the vicinity of a wicket to facilitate playing the game of croquet under conditions of low illumination. Components are attached to a mounting plate **11** that straddles the wicket. The mounting plate universally and firmly attaches to any size or style of wicket by means of retaining straps **24** and friction pads **25** in combination with universal engaging slots **12**. The illumination element directs an intense beam of focused light through a hole **13** in the mounting plate and onto the playing surface immediately under the wicket to clearly reveal the passage of a ball through the wicket. The illumination scheme also casts a larger area of more diffuse light on the playing surface immediately adjacent to the focus spot to reveal croquet balls resting therein and facilitate play around the wicket. Batteries contained in a battery holder **15**, with an on-off electric switch **18**, provide power through a resistor **16** to a light emitting diode **14** as the source of illumination. Light emitting diodes are selected with predetermined brightness and cone of focus to provide both intense and efficient lighting. Component selection, and design are such as to provide impact tolerance against the environment of mallet and ball strikes inherent in croquet play.